

Uncle Sam in Mexico.

Several days ago it was reported that United States troops had penetrated as far as 250 miles into Mexico in pursuit of Villa, the bandit leader who made the raid on Columbus, New Mexico, killed seventeen persons and burned a portion of the town. The government at Washington does not seem to have yet been able to get the consent of Carranza, the head of the de facto government in Mexico, to the transportation of supplies to the American soldiers over the Mexican railroads and that problem was even at the first of this week getting to be a big one, such transportation by autos over a desert waste, having proven inadequate. Further, Carranza soldiers have been deserting to Villa and in places where they pretended to stand in co-operation with the United States troops, have put up but feeble efforts toward the capture of the bandit leader. All in all, the American situation in Mexico is not encouraging, the early capture of Villa doubtful but the expenditure of millions more of money a certainty. However, it is conceded that President Wilson has taken the only action to be considered after the Columbus outrage.

The Lower House on Wednesday morning voted to impeach Judge Edgington and Attorney-General Z. N. Estes, of Memphis, with but one dissenting vote in favor of Estes—Strauss, of Shelby.

Following the great fire in East Nashville, that city has done a noble part toward helping the hundreds of people left homeless and many cases penniless also. The city has asked for no outside help and contributions amounting to more than \$15,000 in cash have been made to assist the unfortunate ones. Of the three great fires on the same day—Nashville, Paris (Texas), and Augusta, (Georgia) Nashville suffered the least money loss, that in the comparatively small town of Paris, reaching the huge total of about ten millions dollars.

"Our friends, the enemy," in other words the Republicans, in their mass convention last Saturday endorsed the "Ouster Proceedings" and in their resolutions made the claim that the enactment of the Ouster Law was made possible by administration of a "bold, fearless, invincible Republican Governor,"—and we can add that the governor referred to was the Honorable Ben W. Hooper, who was twice elected by Independent Democrats and finally defeated by East Tennessee Republicans. Had the Republicans of East Tennessee been a dependable contingent in the election of 1914, Ben W. Hooper would to-day be Governor of Tennessee.

The Republicans of Henderson county, that is the particular leading gentlemen who wrote the resolutions adopted by the convention last Saturday, condemn President Woodrow Wilson for his Mexican policy, for the attitude of his administration toward the war in Europe for the fact that Congress under him "chastised" the Money Power, as stated by Chairman Holmes—and I would have condemned him, we presume for anything else which the gentleman who wrote the resolutions in advance might have thought to have inserted therein. They also called attention to the Currency financial measure insisted upon by Mr. Wilson, which has rendered impossible repetition of the Roosevelt panic of 1907—and condemn it, of course; but more than ninety Republicans in Congress have backed Mr. Wilson in connection with his attitude relative to the war in Europe, and the Democratic, patriotic President has the endorsement of former President William H. Taft, both in his Mexican and preparedness policies. Such condemnation of everything in sight, like the blindly striking snake, so far as the masses are concerned, make us inclined to pray "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Good fortune seldom travels around in an automobile looking for you.

It may be all right to hang a horseshoe over your door, but for real, genuine results it's better to get out and hustle.

Lost money may be regained by industry and economy; lost knowledge by study; lost health by careful living, but lost time is gone forever.

The Firing Line in the Tennessee and American of last Sunday reported the death of L. M. Lynch, who traveled 38 years for the Muscogee Manufacturing Co., of Columbus, Ga., and never rendered his house an itemized expense account. His employers had implicit confidence in the honesty of Mr. Lynch.

Candy coloring which a year ago cost \$1.50 per pound, now comes slowly at \$15 and everything else in connection with candy making has advanced in price. We once heard an old and gifted candy maker state it was impossible then to make a candy worth more than 35 cents per pound—yet we have makes of candy which sell at a dollar and upward per pound. Many American citizens seem to enjoy being robbed and numerous manufacturers are not at all backward about accommodating them.

The newspapers of last Sunday gave account of the sinking of the German raider, Greif, and the British armed merchant cruiser Alcantara, in the North Sea on the 29th of February. The German raider was disguised as a Norwegian merchant vessel and was sunk by gunfire, while the British vessel was hit by a torpedo. Five German officers and 115 men out of a total of 300 were captured and the British losses amounted to 74 men. At the same time the German claim was made that the Greif was blown up by her own commander.

Word was sent out last Saturday from the Field Headquarters of the United States in Mexico that some 250 to 300 words daily allowed sent out over the military wires would have to be divided among the newspaper correspondents with the army which reduce the number of words sent to each paper to about twenty-five. The insufficiency of this reminds us of what Sut Lovingood said when the lawyer offered him a gill of whisky to assist him in getting to town with an old mare, a dog, a clock and several other articles the lawyer had taken for a fee—that the offer was just about on an equality with an inch of cordwood.

In the United States the farmer is just a plain person, representative of that Middle Class which feeds the world, does the labor for the balance of mankind and performs the very useful function of "holding the world together." In Mexico, the farmer is the king of millionaires, according to the World Outlook. Down there the man who owns the farm often lives in a palace, owns land by the hundreds of thousands of acres and the labor is performed by peons who live in adobe, brush or cane "shacks." In Mexico the typical farm often embraces a million acres, as shown by the fact that in the state of Morelos twenty-eight hacendados own all the agricultural land and twelve of the twenty-eight own nine-tenths of it. The territory of Quintana Roo, said to be twice the size of Massachusetts, is divided among eight companies. Nearly all of the state of Yucatan is owned by thirty men who raise hemp and the major part of the agricultural lands of Chihuahua is owned by one family. Lower California, which is about the size of the State of Alabama, is nearly all held by five great corporations. Mexico is a rich agricultural country, but in spite of that does not produce enough of corn and beans to feed the peons who work the lands. Mexico may have a great future before it, but that fu-

ture must be in the dim distance when we think of the fact that of the sixteen millions population, not over three millions are able to buy anything but the commonest food and the cheapest materials for clothing. If Uncle Sam should ever take the job of putting Mexico on its feet, it might be worked into a great country in perhaps a quarter of a century.

COMMUNICATED.

Editor of THE PROGRESS:

Concluding my article concerning the school, I wish to say.

If our school is below the standard, it is because our homes are below the standard. If our school is a negative influence instead of a positive influence in making the character of our children, it is because our homes are a negative influence instead of a positive influence. And that puts the blame precisely where it belongs, upon my shoulders, and upon the shoulders of every other parent of this town.

A school never was intended to take the place of a home. It is only a supplement to the home, because, it is more convenient to teach certain things to groups, than to single children. No parent has any right to suppose that, because he has a school to send them to, he is relieved of one jot of his responsibility for his children. If he has confidence in the child's teacher, he may leave a great many things to the teacher; but it is the duty of every parent to know exactly what his child is learning, both in his books and out of them; to know why he is learning it; to know what effect it will have on his character at present; and to know what effect it will have on his character in the future.

Those things are a good deal of trouble I admit. 'Tis very much easier to blame the teacher, and let it go at that.

We have a right to expect a great deal from our teachers. They must not only be strong enough in their own characters for our children to instinctively follow them, but they must be fit to follow. Children are very easily influenced by their surroundings. They unconsciously imitate whatever is before them. Every event, every person with whom they come in contact leaves some impression on their sensitive brains, and helps in some measure to form their characters. These are not merely my statements, but the united opinion of the men and women who have given a life time of study to the subject of child training. In view of them, we must be careful to select a teacher whom we are willing for our children to grow to be like. For they will grow to be more or less like them in spite of all we can do. If we set up before them a brute, bully, an ignoramus, a money grabber, an unrefined "smart Alec," a namby pamby hypocrit, or any other of that class which, alas, so often disgraces the teaching profession, we must expect to have to make stronger the home influences to overcome the effect of those qualities in our children. We have a right to demand that our teachers should be none of those things. But we have no right to expect any teacher to carry the weight of his classes, and at the same time drag along after him the burden of careless and indifferent and neglectful parents, who send their children to school without having taught them the first principles of obedience and self-control at three years old, than for his teacher to be forced to do it at thirteen; very much easier than for life to teach him at thirty. Those things are of far more importance in providing for a child, than food or shelter, or any other material thing which his parents can give him, because they are things of the spirit. We claim to be Christians, and yet we neglect the magnificent opportunity which every child offers for making part of his daily life, the first principle of Christianity, which is consideration for others.

Raising the standards of our homes is no easy task. No one realizes that, any better than I. No one knows any more than I do

about the difficulties of dealing with strong willed children. No one knows any better than I, the trouble it is to maintain standards when every minute is occupied with other duties. But our children are worth it, and we, fathers and mothers of Lexington, must be brave enough and strong enough to stand for the things which we know to be right.

'Tis easier, of course, to say how the neighbors should regulate their children, than it is to think enough to see the needs of our own. But knowing what the neighbors should do, does not build our children's characters; and that is the thing for which we are responsible.

The only possible way for us to raise the standard of our homes is for me to make mine better, and for my neighbor to make his better, and for my friend across town to make his better, till we have made so many better that the average for the town is near what it should be.

It has taken considerable courage to say these things. They are not said with any desire to criticize, or hurt, or offend anyone; but only because I see them so plainly; because I realize that the fathers and mothers of our town must see them, before we can hope to improve conditions to any great extent.

When we, as a community, have come to realize them, we will rise as one person, and tear down, with our own hands, if need be, the unsafe, unsanitary, inadequate, ugly, disgraceful school building we now have; and erect such a centre of community learning and community inspiration that it will satisfy the highest dream of the most devoted teacher who ever lived.

Thanking you for the courtesy of the generous amount of space you have allowed me, I am,

Sincerely Yours,
LILLIAN PERRINE DAVIS.

Good Advice.

When you have an insane desire to speed, remember the other fellows you are passing have just as much right to break the law as you have. Think of the sentiment you are creating against motoring by your mania. Think of the accidents that may happen by your hitting some other driver coming in from a side street, or a pedestrian who does not see you coming. Think of the people in your own car, perhaps, who have a fear of speeding and are trying to be game and not let you know it. It is not sport to drive fast in the city; it is the utmost discourtesy to your fellow motorists and fellow citizens. If you want to see how much speed there is in your car go out and hire a track but don't use the streets or roads of any town. Above all, "Be courteous."

"WATCH YOUR STEP."

Remember—safety first, last, all the time.—Tennessean and American.

J. W. Thompson for Hawaii's Bench.

Washington, March 25.—Senator Overman of North Carolina has been made chairman of the subcommittee which will report on the nomination of J. Wesley Thompson, formerly of Nashville, to be one of the circuit judges of Hawaii. There seems to be no opposition to Mr. Thompson. He is well known over Tennessee, having been a high official in the I. O. O. F. He went to Honolulu as the assistant of United States District Attorney Jeff McCann. He remained after Mr. McCann resigned and left, and, in recognition of his services, the administration has honored him with one of the judgeships. He will be judge of the third circuit, which was made vacant by the expiration of the term of John A. Matthewman more than a year ago.—Banner Special.

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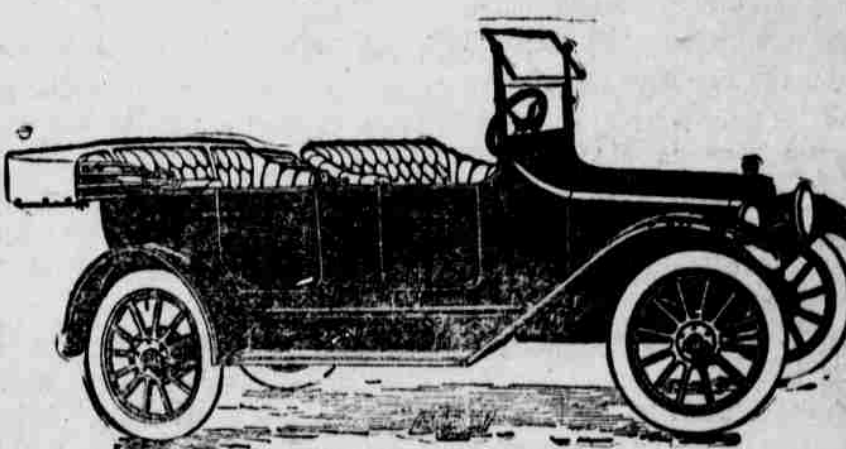
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